ABSTRACT

[0037] The present invention is a video on demand service enabled from a near video on demand service. A desired program is split into portions, or clips. The first clip is delivered a priori to the customer's DVR using a hidden channel and it is made available for purchase on demand. The remaining portion is broadcast regularly using the start time of the NVOD service, for as long as the program is available for VOD purchase. Upon purchase, the remaining portion is authorized for capture by the DVR. The clips are spliced together upon playback to form a complete program.